PRODUCTION AT WYBC

There are many stages of production in both radio and television at WYBC, The Yale Broadcasting Co., Inc. In radio, there are the many sports presentations featuring games, interviews, and regular sports reporting. There are two variety shows appearing over the air once weekly; "Kopp's Kurbstone" and "The Lonesome Gal". In television, WYBC-TV produces a two-hour broadcast every Tuesday night consisting of four separate programs. First, there is the report of sports activities:

SPORTS: The sports department of station WYBC, the Ivy Network station at Yale is responsible for thirteen shows each week in addition to on-the-spot play by play reports of actual sports events. In the course of a year approximately 45 games are broadcast from their point of origin. Football, basketball, hockey, and baseball are spotlighted, with the entire football slate and all the home and some of the road basketball, hockey, and baseball games being broadcast.

The broadcast of a sports event is no haphazard operation hastily worked out. It requires forethought and planning on the part of the sports director and sports announcers concerned. The sports director's job starts weeks before the actual broadcast. He must write to the sports publicity offices of all of Yale's opponents and procure the brochures and releases which are necessary for any informative detailed broadcast. In addition to this, stories about Yale's opponents appearing in New York and New Haven newspapers are clipped and filed by sports department heelers and members. The department head and game announcers must check about engineers, spotters, statisticians, half-time guests, transportation, commercials, publicity, and telephone lines, making sure that the other departments are providing the necessary tools for a successful broadcast. Before football games, spotters' charts with the names, numbers, and positions of all the players must be made out, and statistics must be brought up-to-date; before any event coaches must be interviewed about the strength and physical condition of the squad, and all information about the opposing team must be collected and prepared for use during the broadcast.

Most people think that the sports announcer does nothing more than go up to the game, broadcast, and go home, but in reality his job starts long before the day of the game. He too is responsible for collecting information about Yale and its opponents; it is his job always to keep informed. Long before game time he must know the names and numbers of every player on both squads so that he can broadcast with precision and authority. Once this work is done, the announcer is prepared to enjoy himself, to get the thrill of giving a colorful and accurate description of the event as it unfolds before him. But only after extensive pre-game preparation can he give an intelligent report of the play-by-play and conduct a meaningful interview between periods.

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WYBC's daily sports programs focus on the national scene but spotlight the Yale scene. A wire service ticker provides access to all national sports news, while releases from the athletic association and interviews with the coaches provide information on Yale's teams. At the present time there are six 15 minute shows, six 5 minute shows, and one half-hour program broadcast weekly. All the qualified members of the sports department handle these broadcasts. The five minute programs put on at 11:10 at night provide a roundup of the day in sports. The fifteen minute programs are more complex and diversified. In an effort to establish his own personality each announcer selectes his own format. For example, two of the announcers conduct a joint show four times a week, utilizing the wire service reports for about seven or eight minutes of news and devoting the rest of the time to informal discussions of topics of interest. During the winter, two nights a week they conduct a hot stove league discussion on major league baseball, one night they talk about basketball (on this night during the fall they pick football winners), and one night on a half hour show they present the roundup of the week in sports. These discussions are informal and unrehearsed, but by no means haphazard. Topics are selected well before air time (although usually the announcers are always able to manage to get off the subject), and considerable research is done in preparation for each show.

Each week also there is an interview on both radio and television with two of Yale's outstanding sports figures. The sports department tries to be as ambitious as possible in its coverage of the Yale sports scene, for polls constantly reveal the high listener rating for athletic contests. Thus if there is a home basketball game and an away hockey game the sports director tries to arrange a system whereby both games can be covered by separate broadcast teams. switching badk and forth from one to the other, with a central co-ordinator at the studios directing the show. This has turned out to be most successful and has received high listener acclaim.

Thus the sports department of WYBC, production-wise, seeks to give the listeners what they want, a full complete coverage of the Yale scene, coupled with complete information about the happenings in sport all over the world.

THE WYBC FORUM OF THE AIR: In time the WYBC Forum of the Air is just about the oldest sustained production show at WYBC. It is an educational forum program which began as a discussion between two faculty members and two students on a subject of current interest. However, last November the format of the program was changed to one of a single member of the faculty lecturing on a subject direct from his university class. This program is carried both on radio and TV. The professor is decided upon in a meeting of the production staff at WYBC and is then contacted by the producer of the show. He selects a lecture that he feels is both interesting and contains a great deal of academic material. The purpose of this program is twofold: First to give a Yale undergraduate a chance to gain a modicum of knowledge on a subject in which he would not normally be interested; and secondly to give undergraduates a preview of courses that they might be interested in taking at a later time. Our polls have shown that this program has been received much more enthusiastically than

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was expected at its inception, and has turned into one of our more popular programs.

YALE SINGS: Yale Sings is a program that brings singing groups from Yale, other Ivy League colleges, and various women's colleges to the Yale community both over radio and TV. The production of this program is similar to that of the WYBC Forum of The Air, except that TV is able to incorporate many more visual effects in its broadcast. Until recently. the program had concentrated on Yale groups, but lately has branched out into the other fields mentioned above. It is hoped that soon we will be able to draw all the singing groups from other colleges so that WYBC may provide a more diversified program to the Yale student.

ON CAMERA: On Camera is a ten-minute television interview which has recently been added to the WYBC-TV schedule. It is a program which is straight interview with a well-known personality on the Yale or national scene. As this program is so new there is not too much to say about it except that, so far, it has lived up to our expectations.

KOPP'S KURBSTONE: Karl Kopp is a personality on the Yale campus known for his wit and zaniness in all affairs. He has always ribbed any and all institutions on the capus, and his WYBC program, "Kopp's Kurbstone" takes good advantage of all these capabilities. This is a series of taped take-offs on such subjects as the "Lone Stranger", "Jack Armstrong", "The Green Hornet", and many others. As a five minute spot broadcast, it is a very valuable asset to our broadcasting schedule.

THE LONESOME GAL: The Lonesome Gal is another new addition to our weekly broadcasting schedule. She is a student from one of the graduate schools who comes down to WYBC weekly to record a ten minute disc jockey show for Sunday night broadcasting. Despite its shortness, her impact on the all-male undergraduate student body is quite astounding.

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